Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 06162 111100Z

13-11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

OES-06 OMB-01 DLOS-06 SAL-01 ACDA-10 /106 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4562

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE-IN

CINCUSAFE-INCFR

HQ USEUCOM

CINCUSAREUR

COMSIXTHFLT

FOSIF ROTA

UNCLAS ANKARA 6162

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR

SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS COVERAGE OF AEGEAN DISPUTE

1. PRIMIN DEMIREL, IN DISCUSSING THE AEGEAN SITUATION WITH REPORTERS AUGUST 10, ASKED RHETORICALLY, "WHY ARE THE GREEKS GOING TO WAR? THE HORA (SISMIK) IS CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN WATERS WHICH DO NOT BELONG TO GREECE.

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WHAT WILL THEY GAIN BY FIGHTING FOR IT AND TO WHOM WILL THEY

BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN THIS WAR?...WE ARE NOT DOING ANYTHING WRONG...I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THEY BECAME ALARMED. THE GREEKS HAVE ALREADY MADE THEIR SURVEYS IN THE AEGEAN. WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE SURVEYS AND WE ARE EXERCISING OUR FIGHTS. ARE WE NOT ABLE TO GO OUT FROM CANAKKALE? WE WANT PEACE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THEY SHOULD NOT ESCALATE HOSTILITIES."

2. THE AUGUST 11 TURKISH PRESS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE AEGEAN DISPUTE. NOTORIOUSLY ANTI-GREEK HURRIYET FEATURED REPORDUCTIONS OF HEADLINES FROM GREEK PAPERS STATING THAT THE "HORA IS TRANSGRESSING ON OUR CONTINENTAL SHELF."

ACCORDING TO A HURRIYET HEADLINE "TELEPHONE DIPLOMACY HAD BEGUN AGAIN." THE ARTICLE ALLEGED THAT SEC. KISSINGER HAD PHONED PRIMIN DEMIREL AND FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL FROM PARIS. HURRIYET ALSO REPORTED THAT GREEK AIRPLANES AND DESTROYERS HAD FOLLOWED AND COME CLOSE TO A TURKISH FERRY BOAT, THE TRUVA, DURING ITS VOYAGE TO IZMIR AUGUST 10.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TERRITORIAL WATERS, DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, AEGEAN, SEISMIC PROSPECTING, EXPLORATORY

DRILLING

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 11 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:

Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: **Disposition Remarks:**

Document Number: 1976ANKARA06162 Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760308-1176

From: ANKARA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760866/aaaacfnu.tel

Line Count: 79

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: CunninFX Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 08 APR 2004 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a

Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <03 JAN 2005 by CunninFX>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÅY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a Secure: OPEN

Status: NATIVE

Subject: TURKISH PRESS COVERAGE OF AEGEAN DISPUTE

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006